10: Schumacher--223 [2] T-1 (ca. 1896) 1898 Formosans
116, 351, 361, 764

The Chinese villages in the lowland plain are mostly hidden in bamboo jungles. Some of them are situated at the foot of mountain spurs where they are well protected against the weather. They are surrounded by burial grounds and enclosed within high brick walls. Wide and swampy ditches gird these unimpressive places, whose inhabitants make a meager living. But for centuries the Chinese have preserved the ruins and trash with sentimental care.

Except for the important group of houses at Loan-Loan or Wang-Wang the dwellings in the region around Kelung are scattered here and there at the foot of the hills or in the groves composed of bamboo, banana or areca trees. Most of the houses are fairly neat and they are made of a bamboo framework that is covered with rice straw. The corner supports are made of several beams that were taken from the neighboring forest and planted securely in the ground. The skeleton is a bamboo wattling and the whole thing is solidly tied together with little cords and pegs of the same kind. A broad pent-roof runs around the dwelling and protects it both from the sun and the rain. Very few of these houses have windows and they are all equipped with movable doors which can be dropped at night. The floor is covered with a kind of concrete made of lime and sand.

The land around the dwelling is enclosed by a bamboo hedge [20] and it is an orchard as well as a vegetable garden; you see banana trees, arecas, oranges and lemons, then there are litchis and mangoes, sweet potatoes and the kind of taro that grows in swamps.

15: U.S. Navy--28 [7] (no date) 1944 Formosans
116, 351, 343

"Around the back and sides of the door-yard [MC: of the huts occupied by the poorer people] are to be found thick hedges of bamboo, usually of an impenetrable giant variety (bambusa stenostachya Nakai), which affords a resilient barrier to attack from without. In front of the open court there is often found a semi-circular pond, used for breeding fish as well as for protection. The entrances to such a houseyard are few and narrow. Within the enclosure are the well, fruit trees and gardens, chicken pens and pig sties and at the back or side, the open-pit latrine."

31: Hofmann--631 [2] N-3 (1909) 1912 Formosans
116, 342, 351, 871

These Chinese capitalists know how to live luxuriously; their houses are beautiful even by European standards. A drive leads from the street to a large garden enclosed by the house and annexes. There are high, cool porticos leading to the residence proper. Many of the houses have a small theater. Since in former times there were no public schools in China, or at least none that were attended by the children of the rich, the Chinese here have set aside one wing of the building for the children and their tutors. As the Chinese ideal is to have a large family and this ideal is often realized, this wing is usually very large. In the center of the courtyard, there is a pond. There are small arbors and arcades arranged in excellent taste. From the terrace one has a beautiful view of the estate, which is hidden from the observer on the street. The house where I stayed had been made into a Japanese hotel but the features characteristic of the original estate had been retained.